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## **George Appointed to Senate Appropriations Committee**

(Lansing)- Incoming Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema (R-Wyoming), today appointed Senatorelect Tom George (R- Texas Township), to the Senate Appropriations Committee for the legislative session beginning January 2003.

"Tom George's personal and professional leadership will be a tremendous asset to the Senate Appropriations Committee as Michigan families and businesses look to the state to establish a solid economy," Sikkema said.

The Senate Appropriations Committee is responsible for approving all state government spending, including the annual budgets of state departments.

"The Appropriations committee plays an important role in strengthening Michigan's economy for families and businesses," George said. "I look forward to working with my colleagues to overcome the challenges of our current fiscal state."

Currently, Tom George serves in the Michigan House of Representatives and has been a practicing medical doctor in the Kalamazoo area for over 15 years. George is the Vice-Chair of the House Transportation committee and is also a member of the Criminal Justice and Health Policy committees.

On Jan. 8, 2003, Tom George will be sworn in as the state Senator of the 20<sup>th</sup> District, representing Kalamazoo and part of Van Buren counties.